



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, April 16, 2008

Electricity

PG&E's 1,087 MW Diablo Canyon Nuke Unit 2 in California Ramped Up to 93 Percent by April 16

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of April 15 the unit was operating at 67 percent. The unit was reduced last week in order to repair water pump.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Bloomberg News, 12:04 April 15, 2008

Luminant's 750 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas Shut April 15

Reuters, 20:39 April 15, 2008

Exelon's 855 MW Quad Cities Nuke Unit 1 in Illinois Ramped Up to 97 Percent by April 16

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of April 15 the unit was operating at 85 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

OPPD's 478 MW Fort Calhoun Nuke Unit in Nebraska Reduced to 50 Percent by April 16

The unit was reduced due to a feed pump seal leak. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of April 15 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Bloomberg News, 12:08 April 16, 2008

Duke Could Retire One-Third of its Coal Plants by 2030

In its 2007-2008 Sustainability Report, Duke Energy announced plans to reduce greenhouse emissions and indicated that it could retire one-third of its coal-fired plants, and replace them by tripling its natural gas-fired and doubling nuclear generating capacity by 2030. The company indicated that the report does not present finalized plans but rather provides a realistic baseline for discussions about cleaner energy production.

<http://charlotte.bizjournals.com/charlotte/stories/2008/04/14/daily11.html>

Con Edison Proposes Energy Efficiency Program, Plans 500 MW Demand Reduction by 2015

Consolidated Edison (ConEd) aims at reducing system demand by 500 MW by 2015. ConEd has filed a plan with the New York State Public Service Commission outlining an energy efficiency program to achieve that goal. The plan is consistent with the goals of a statewide initiative to reduce electric consumption growth by 15 percent. Con Edison plans to target residential and commercial consumption through 11 programs in order to reduce demand by 378 MW. An additional 137 MW is expected to be conserved by continuing the company's Targeted Demand Side Management program to 2015. If approved the program would begin this summer.

http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/industries/energy/article/edison-proposes-new-energy-efficiency-programs-cleaner-greener-new-york_563607_11.html

Update: Duke Completes Drought Protection Work for 2,200 MW McGuire Nuclear Power Station in North Carolina

The company has completed work that allows the power plant to operate during periods of extreme drought. The completed project allows the plant to operate when the level of water in the lake is below the previous minimum depth to allow the plant to operate.

<http://www.charlotte.com/business/story/581416.html>

NRG Energy Proposed 800 MW Coal-fired Unit Delayed by State Panel in Texas

A state panel of administrative law judges in Texas has placed the approval of the NRG's application on indefinite hold until the issue of mercury emissions is resolved. The panel's decision postpones the process for the plant's state approval by at least two months.

http://www.star-telegram.com/state_news/story/582570.html

Xcel Energy Seeks License Extension for Prairie Island Nuclear Plant in Minnesota

The company submitted applications on April 15 to extend the licenses for twenty years its 1,078 MW Prairie Island nuclear power plant. The current licenses on the two 538 MW units will expire in 2013 and 2014.

<http://www.startribune.com/business/17761189.html>

States with Renewable Electricity Standards See Greater Renewable Capacity Additions

According to a study released by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the majority of renewable capacity additions from 1998 through 2007 have occurred in states that have Renewable Portfolio Standards. Wind power amounted to 93 percent of these additions.

<http://www.lbl.gov/Science-Articles/Archive/EETD-RPS.html>

OPG's 494 MW Lambton Coal-fired Unit 2 in Ontario Shut April 16

Reuters, 8:17 April 16, 2008

Petroleum

Update: FCC Still Down at Marathon's 102,000 b/d Catlettsburg, Kentucky Refinery

Contrary to press reports yesterday, a company representative stated that the FCC unit was not in the process of restarting. The unit has remained shut since an electrical substation fire April 10.

Reuters, 13:18 April 15, 2008

Rates Reduced at Shell's 340,000 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery April 14

According to a report filed with state regulators, the feed rates were reduced after an operational upset involving a hydroprocessing unit.

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/ee/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=106325>

MMS Increases Standards for Oil and Gas Structures in the Gulf of Mexico

The Minerals Management Service has issued its final rule raising requirements for oil and gas structures in the Gulf of Mexico following significant infrastructural damage from the 2004 and 2005 hurricane season. The new standards are aimed at both enhancing platform survivability and environmental safety during hurricanes. The new requirements include raising platforms higher above the water and placement of critical equipment at higher points on the structure. The requirements are scheduled to go into effect May 15.

<http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/ap/business/5705220.html>

Natural Gas

Update: Cheniere Energy's 4 Bcf/d Sabine Pass LNG Terminal in Louisiana Receives First Cargo April 12

The facility received its first shipment of liquefied natural gas (LNG) on April 12.

<http://www.energycurrent.com/index.php?id=3&storyid=9975>

Reuters, 11:35 April 16, 2008

Other News

Update: Kinder Morgan to Test 16-inch Ethanol Pipeline in Florida

The company announced intentions to begin testing ethanol movement through a pre-existing pipeline in the third quarter of this year. Kinder Morgan will conduct the tests on a former gasoline pipeline that stretches 104 miles between the Port of Tampa and the Orlando International Airport. Among the tests, the company will be testing a proprietary corrosion-inhibiting additive that could potentially allow the ethanol to travel by pipeline without the leakage issue.

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/business/energy/article456691.ece>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 16, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S.	113.22	111.59	63.61
\$/Barrel			
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub	10.16	10.05	7.93
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

16,000 PSNH Customers Briefly Without Power After Equipment Failure in New Hampshire

<http://www.unionleader.com/article.aspx?headline=Power+back+on+after+lights+go+out+for+%22good+chunk%22+of+city&articleId=89b658f1-9af5-4275-a960-cb15bf36e3fc>

Update: Canadian NEB Approves Enbridge's Line 4 Crude Oil Expansion Project in Alberta

<http://biz.yahoo.com/iw/080415/0387120.html>

Update: Allegheny Energy Announces Agreement with West Virginia's PSC Consumer Advocate Division Over 500 kV Transmission Line

<http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080415/20080415006677.html?v=1>

Update: Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant Tests New Emergency Siren System

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=10117434

U.S. Oil Imports in February Fell to Lowest Level in a Year – EIA

Reuters, 15:34 April 15, 2008

U.S. Average Diesel Price Above \$4 a Gallon for the First Time – EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Forest Oil Announces 4 Tcfe Potential Utica Shale Discovery in Quebec

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/gas/news_article.cfm?id=10118786

Venezuela Approves 50 Percent Windfall Profit Tax on Foreign Oil Companies

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080416/venezuela_oil_tax.html?v=1

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Energy Assurance Daily provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. EST. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/index.aspx>.

Please direct comments and questions to: ead@oe.netl.doe.gov